

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ONOE, A. et al.

JAN 1 6 2007

Appl. No. 10/615,415%

Filed: July 9, 2003

For: PICKUP DEVICE

Allowed: January 10, 2007

Atty. Ref.: 4105-19; Confirmation No. 7962

Group: 2627

Examiner: Tran

January 16, 2007

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESUBMISSION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants re-submit the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) of December 29, 2006 and respectfully request that an initialed PTO-1449 form for this IDS be returned to Applicant. This IDS was submitted prior to the mailing of the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due and Notice of Allowability and is contained in the USPTO image file wrapper for this application. Consequently, consideration of the cited information is believed to be appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Mighael J. Shea Reg. No. 34,725

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of

ONOE, A. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 4105-19

Serial No. 10/615,415

TC/A.U.: 2627

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Confirmation No.:

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* * * * * * * * * * *

December 29, 2006

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider

information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992). Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below. 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required. In the event, a first Office Action has been mailed prior to filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Office is requested to treat the present paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose. 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. c. Attached is our Check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). d. Patent Term Adjustment For purposes of patent term adjustment under 37 C.F.R §1.704, each item

contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a

communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and

this communication was not received by any individual designated in Section
1.56(c) more than 30 days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure
Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three
months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice
of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the
Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check for \$180.00 in
payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).
a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this
Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from
a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than
three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure
Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a
counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making
reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information
Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in
37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this
Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the
present specification.
5. The information identified on the attached PTO-1449 form was cited in an
office action in a counterpart application dated. English-language abstracts/partial
translations are enclosed for the Examiner's convenient reference.
6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language
document(s) appears below:
7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application
Nos., which are directed to related technical subject matter. The Examiner is respectfully
requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No., filed, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 referencing docket number 4105-19.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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veral sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

4105-19

10/615,415

APPLICANT

ONOE et al.

TC/A.U.

July 9, 2003

2627

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

		- 0.5	PATENT DOCUMENTS			
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	CLIBCL ACC	FILING DATE
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*Examiner

Date Considered

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4105-19

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APPLICANT

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FILING DATE

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July 9, 2003

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examiner			Date Considered				